

# The Ballarat Naturalist

April 2007



Trailing Goodenia  
*Goodenia lanata*  
(Club Logo)

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## SEANA Otway Camp – 7<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> March 2007

Seventy eight people from thirteen clubs including five from Ballarat attended the South East Australian Naturalists Association (SEANA) autumn camp held in the Otway Ranges from Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March to Tuesday 13 March 2007. The camp was organized by the Geelong Field Naturalist Club members led by Dick and Shirley Southcombe. The base for activities was the community hall at Forrest. Accommodation was organized by those attending, based on suggestions provided in the advertising for the camp. Some participants stayed in the Forrest Camping Park using the cabins or caravan and tent sites. Others utilized B&B or other accommodation out of town which meant travelling in each day for activities.

Five whole day excursions to different locations in the Otway Ranges could be selected from eight offered, each led by Geelong Field Naturalist Club members or local naturalists. There were generally four excursions daily with each excursion being offered about three times. Registrations for excursion were made at the beginning of the camp and each evening groups met to organize car pooling which made for efficient departures. The daily ritual included disinfecting shoes with a spray of 80% methylated spirits to minimize the risk of spreading phytophthora fungus. The excursions were to:

- Pennyroyal Falls led by Neil McInnes
- Lake Elizabeth and Blanket Leaf Picnic Grounds led by Trevor Pescott
- Hopetoun Falls, Redwoods and Maits Rest led by Trevor Pescott or Neville Walsh and Dick Southcombe, depending on the day.
- Wild Dog – Grey River Road led by Dick Southcombe
- Triplet Falls and Aire River Crossing led by Geoff Beilby
- Goat Track and West Barwon Dam led by John James
- Melba Gully and Old Beechy Rail Trail led by Irene Spokes
- Big Trees led by Geoff Beilby

On the last day, Tuesday, an excursion was offered to the Red Rock area to see the interesting volcanic geology followed by lunch in the Colac botanic gardens.

The excursions involved daily trips of up to 140 km over a mixture of forest and sealed roads so a good spectrum of the area was covered over the five days. Turtons Track was closed so some trips involved interesting diversions through less used roads providing views of harvested forest, pine plantations and regeneration. With the area having higher rainfall than elsewhere we were treated to verdant vistas unlike the dry drought affected land travelled to reach Forrest. Ferny gullies were a highlight of excursions. Rough, smooth and slender tree ferns were conspicuous and numerous other ferns were seen. Part of the camp kit was a booklet for fern identification prepared for us by Geoff Beilby. This showed general appearance and spore patterns which helped the novice with identification. The book should be useful on other occasions in the bush. It was a delight to see water over Triplet Falls which had recently undergone track work following vandalism to trees. Water flowing in the Aire River was pleasant with so many creeks being currently dry and rivers very low. At Kennett River koalas were easily seen in the trees at the start of the Grey River Road adjacent to the caravan park. There were many picturesque picnic areas with one of the most pleasant being the Grey River Picnic area with the creek flowing alongside.

There were opportunities to see more than the natural environment. On the excursion to Melba Gully an extensive private garden of dahlias was noticed and a stop made. On this same excursion the group walked a section of the trail formed along the old Beechy train line led by Anthony, the brother of the excursion leader,



Fan Fern seen at Aire River Crossing  
*Photo by Val Hocking*

Irene Spokes. This was a pleasant walk mostly through pine plantations but there were also extensive areas of blackberries with ripe fruit bringing back memories of when picking this fruit was an annual activity. On the excursion led by John James we were able to visit his property and see horses, foals and vegetables growing as well as an area of conserved native vegetation. A couple of the excursion leaders provided the opportunity to stop at their local town shop adding interest for participants and

presumably adding a little to the local economy.

Catering for each evening meal was included in the registration so following a day's excursion participants were able to gather at the Forrest hall for pre dinner snacks followed by a buffet two course meal. The caterers made leftovers available at the end of the evening so the fillings for the next day's sandwiches could be collected and nothing was wasted.

There was a guest speaker each evening. The first night Trevor Pescott provided an introduction to the Otways including aboriginal and settlement history, fires,

forestry, and clearing as well as providing an overview of plants, animals and birds. The second evening Greg Williams, an Environmental Water Reserves Officer with the Corrangamite Catchment Authority gave a technical talk on the methodology for assessing the flow requirement of rivers for sustainability (Victorian Flows Methodology). This is usually applied to stressed rivers and the Barwon and Mooroolbool have been done. His work was with the Gellibrand which is one of the most pristine rivers in Victoria with seasonally unchanged flow regimes. There are no carp in this river and it is reputed as the best blackfish river in Victoria.

On Friday Irene Spokes provided a slide show of birds seen in the Otways from the list of 226 species sighted. These were taken either by herself or her daughter and provided a good prompt for identification with the name of each bird on the slide. On Saturday evening Enid Mayfield outlined the features of her book "Flora of the Otway Plain and Ranges 1" using scenarios that provided a context for explaining how it could be used. This beautiful book was published last year and some of her art work has been exhibited in the Ballarat Art Gallery. For Sunday's talk we were treated to photographs of "Orchids of the Otways" by Geoff Beilby. Geoff explained that the Otways had everything except box forest so there was a wide variety of orchids with 130 species represented in the area. The final talk was on ferns and given by Neville Walsh. It included photos of herbarium specimens.

The Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March after the excursions. The fees were set to remain at \$15 to clubs and \$10 for individuals. Committee members whose term expires were re-elected including John Gregurke who will continue as secretary. We are certainly fortunate to have these people willing to lead SEANA. The next SEANA camp will be from 5 to 7<sup>th</sup> October 2007 at "The Briars", Mornington. March 2008 is being organized by the Naracoorte-Lucindale club and will probably be located at the Naracoorte Caves.

Dick Southcombe advised that this would be the last camp he and Shirley organized. Dick's work for SEANA has been conspicuous, providing strength and continuity in the promotion of the natural environment. It is certainly appreciated broadly by those attending SEANA activities and field naturalists generally.

Thank you to all the members of the Geelong Field Naturalist Club who made this camp come to life, to the excursion leaders and speakers. These people gave generously of their time both in planning for and conducting activities.

*Peter and Claire Dalman*

## SEANA Campout at the Otways March 2007

The Geelong FNC club ably hosted this camp for a week. Around 80 participants (5 from Ballarat) congregated at the Forest Hall each morning. They came from many parts of Victoria, Albury and Naracoorte (where the March 2008 campout will be held). We divided into 4 groups and headed into different areas for the day. They included the many rain forest /fern gully areas, a couple of waterfalls, The Old Beechy rail trail, the Koalas at Kennett River camping area, and the drier forest areas.



Ghost Fungi that glow in the dark

My favorites were the lushness of Melba Gully, famed for its glow worms and Triplet Falls/ Aire River Crossing. In both these areas we saw a variety of fungi. I photographed 3 beautiful bracket fungi, a ghost fungi, an attractive earth ball and a yellow slime fungi. The latter was photographed on 2 consecutive days and noted to have moved a couple of centimeters. The rough and skirted tree ferns were in abundance together with many other varieties of

ferns and mosses making a delightful scene.

Each evening we shared some nibbles which were followed by various spit roast dinners – very tasty! A guest speaker then addressed the group. Most had digital presentations on topics such as Barwon catchment water measurement, fungi, orchids, and ferns of the Otways area. Enid Mayfield, author of “Flora of the Otway Plain and Ranges 1”, took us through this excellent edition with its beautiful floral illustrations.

In all a very enjoyable camp and an area that I will delight in returning to.

*Val Hocking*



Triplet Falls

## Excursion Anglesea Sunday 4 March 2007

The contingent of 11 met the Gregurke's at the Point Addis turnoff from the Great Ocean Road. After a cuppa we headed for the tip of Point Addis. Helen had a supply of plastic bags so we could do our bit for Clean-up Australia Day. During the day several bags of litter were collected. We walked along a boardwalk to the edge of the limestone cliffs. The plants are kept low by the salt laden air. We identified Coast beard-heath *Leucopogon parviflorus*, Cushion Bush *Calocephalus brownii*, Moonah *Melaleuca lanceolata*, Thyme Rice-flower *Pimelea serphyllifolia*, Slender Velvet-bush *Lasiopetalum baueri*, Coast Pomaderis *Pomaderis oraria*, Beaded Glasswort *Sarcornia quinqueflora*, and Sea-berry Saltbush *Rhagodia candolleana*. The saltbush had red berries with sweet flesh but the seed had a bitter taste. Bower Spinach *Tetragonia implexicoma*, scrambled over the sheltered side of other shrubs. The only plant found flowering was White Correa *Correa alba*. Two Great Cormorants perched below us on the cliff.

We walked a short distance along the Koori Cultural Walk at the edge of Ironbark Basin. Most of the trees were stunted Red Ironbark *Eucalyptus tricarpa*. Brown Thornbills were seen amongst the foliage of trees. Hop Goodenia *Goodenia ovata* and Ixodia *Ixodia achillaeoides* were flowering. We also found Boobialla *Myoporum insulare*. A small wasp was climbing backwards over the leaf litter pulling a large spider.

Lunch was enjoyed on a patch of green grass in the centre of Anglesea. The clouds cooled the temperature and sent some people looking for jumpers. We watched magpies chase an Australian Kestrel.

At Urquhart's Bluff we walked along the beach. A large pile of seaweed had been stranded at the high tide line and we found many types of green, brown and red algae. Part of a Little Penguin was picked up, as were the bones of a wing nearly a metre long. A group of three Wedge-tailed Eagles were flying over the timbered area behind the beach.

At the Airey's Inlet lighthouse some people caught glimpses of a Rufous Bristlebird. The Superb Fairy-wrens were easier to see and one male was beginning to develop breeding plumage. Sea Box *Alyxia buxifolia* stood out with red berries and windmill-like white flowers.

We then traveled inland to the Airey's Inlet wastewater treatment ponds. These were well populated with birds. Ducks included Shelduck, Grey and Chestnut Teal, Musk Duck, Black Duck and Shoveler. Other water birds were Coot, Australasian and Hoary-headed Grebe. Many Welcome Swallows were hawking for insects.

The excursion concluded with afternoon tea at the parking area overlooking the Anglesea open cut brown coal mine. The coal is burnt in the adjacent power station to generate electricity for the aluminium smelter at Point Henry near Geelong.

John Gregurke

## **Extreme Environments**

Members night presentations have become a regular feature of our Annual General Meetings. The title for this year was “Extreme Environments”. This proved to be wide open to interpretation. Greg Binns decided to choose an Australian latitude – 15 degrees south and show the extremes of habitat across our big country. He began in Far North Queensland on the Pacific coast right up the top tip and travelled west to the Indian Ocean. We saw jungle, savannah, wide open empty plains, creeks, rocks, wetlands and more. A novel approach to “extreme” and very interesting. Claire Dalman showed slides of Uluru (Ayres Rock) and surrounding dry country, some views of the Nullarbor plain, a couple of a snow cave in the alpine area of NSW and also included some of flooded local streets just to remind us all that sometimes it does rain.

Carol Hall showed us slides of Oregon, USA. She chose the hostile rim of Crater Lake caldera from an extinct volcano. Plants here are able to survive extreme environments and appear to flourish despite weather and other conditions being challenging. One survival adaptation is to have “anti-freeze” in conifer sap. John Gregurke showed local areas blanked in snow in 1983, Enfield Forest after the bushfires and some slides of our 2005 club campout to Ned’s Corner. Flora and fauna living in this Trust for Nature property have to cope with baking hot summers and very cold winter nights.

Helen Burgess took us overseas to Ecuador, the Amazon River, Columbia, the Kamchatka Peninsula of Russia, Antarctica and Deception Island. We saw extremes from hot, steamy humidity to bitter cold; from a tiny humming bird to large Emperor penguins. Our planet is certainly varied.

Val Hocking continued the overseas travel with a digital presentation on a trip made a couple of years ago to Korea. Some cultural and historical scenes were included along with agricultural and natural vistas.

Hopefully people will be inspired to contribute to next year’s presentation entitled “Goldfields Naturally”. Start to plan now. Thanks to all those who contributed to this evening.

*Claire Dalman*

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## **Field Naturalists Club of Ballarat Inc.:**

### **President’s Report to the Annual General Meeting on 2nd March 2007**

I am pleased to present the President's report for the Field Naturalists' Club of Ballarat Inc. for the 2006/2007 year, my third as president of the club.

At the outset I note with sadness that the club has lost two members with the death of Joan Andrews, Stella Bedggood’s daughter and Pat Murphy. Joan had been a member for an extended period, regularly attending meetings and excursions with her late husband Brian and son Kevin. Pat Murphy was an active member of our club for many years. She held executive and committee positions over an extended period and was a committee member at the time of her death. She maintained plant



lists for many local areas which have now been donated by the family for club use. In memory of Pat's association with the club we were honoured to be given on behalf of Bill and the family a copy of the recently released book "Wild Orchids of Victoria, Australia" by Jeffrey Jeanes and Gary Backhouse. This will be a valuable reference for members and a reminder of Pat's interest in these plants. Her botanical knowledge was extensive but she had a particular love of our native orchids and had spoken to us about these, assisted by Bill's photography.

Our membership remains steady. The average general meeting attendance has been just under 30 with between 10 and 29 on excursions. The club continues to meet at the S.M.B. Horticulture School, corner of Gillies and Gregory Streets Wendouree, on the first Friday of each month with excursions usually the Sunday following the meeting. The support of the Horticulture Centre and its staff in providing the facilities makes the organisation of a venue very easy and suitable.

Again speakers at the general meetings have presented a diverse variety of topics which have been interesting and informative. I record the thanks of the club on behalf of members for their willingness to travel and address us. The year began with Ern Perkins' presentation titled "Plants of semi-arid regions" which reminded us of the many reserves to our north west. In May Andy Arnold spoke on "Brush-tailed Phascogales: their life and history". Phil Kinghorn spoke on the "Geology of Ballarat" and followed his talk by leading the June excursion to local features, finishing on the top of Mt Buninyong, naming and pointing out each high point through the 360 degree panorama and leaving a printed list of these with the club. In July club member Carol Hall showed slides she had taken on a tour to "Quebec and New England". August was a time for members presentations with Chris Baulch speaking on his first experience of native orchids, Carol Hall illustrating lava flows around Hamilton and Val Hocking giving a digital images presentation of the Australian Naturalists Network (ANN) alpine camp. In both September and October the scheduled speakers were unable to attend so John Gregurke organised for the screening of a digital slide show of the ANN camp composed by Rosalind Smallwood for the September meeting and John and Alison Williams showed us the wildlife in 'their' part of the United Kingdom in October. In December Hedley Thompson enlightened us about the reserves around Ballarat managed by the Ballarat Environment Network (BEN). For the February meeting Paul Norquay provided a very pertinent discussion on water and in particular its management in irrigation including a demonstration of evaporation measurement and explanation of soil moisture terms and the devices used to measure soil moisture. The general meeting presentations will be finished off tonight with contributions of members under the title "Extreme Environments".

The Stella Bedggood Memorial Lecture held in November was attended by 54 people. Professor Martin Westbrooke from the Centre for Environment Management at the University of Ballarat gave an engaging lecture on "Von Mueller's Contribution to the Botany of Victoria". Club members continue to ensure this is a highlight of the annual calendar, decorating the room with flowers and photographs. Once more we were pleased to welcome some members of Stella's family.

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The local bush continues to be the focus of the excursion program with a few visits being made to more distant locations. This year scheduled excursions were made to the Daylesford-Hepburn region led by Joan Endacott, Ballarat geology features already mentioned and led by Phil Kinghorn, Blackwood to look at fungi and Wombat Station and Great Dividing Trail led by Les Hanrahan, Clarkesdale and Mt Erip in September and the Brisbane Ranges 'after the fire' in October led by John Gregurke. The November excursion was a highlight with 29 members and guests venturing to bush blocks near Trawalla and 'Belmont' homestead, Raglan. This excursion was originally organised by Pat Murphy and led on the day by Bill accompanied by many of his family. In December Tim D'Ombraïn led members to a number of the BEN reserves around Smythesdale/Berringa and in February, Les Hanrahan escorted us to a number of Ballarat water reserves finishing in the evening at St Georges Lake. The final excursion on the calendar will be to Anglesea. The May excursion was planned to go to Bamganie Flora Reserve and associated areas. Unfortunately it needed to be cancelled due to the roads in the area being wet and slippery, a situation which is hard to credit considering the low total rainfall for the year and the current state of water supplies.

In addition to the scheduled program there were a few 'mid-month' excursions and activities. The Ballarat Observatory was visited on 21st May principally to watch the excellent three dimensional videos. On Tuesday 25th July John Gregurke led a small group to BEN reserves south of Buninyong and on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November seventeen members and guests visited the Little River Earth Sanctuary to see native animals within the predator free area. A working bee to remove weed mat from around trees along the Yarrowee trail was held on the 10th August with ten members participating. A number of trees were beginning to be ringbarked by the mat so this was an opportune activity but the work will need to be continued.

The club's "campout" in was in September to the Inglewood area. Here members were fortunate to have local naturalists Collis and Mavis Needs and 90 year old Fred Watt lead us to areas of natural and social interest including blue mallee harvested sites and old mining sites which would have been difficult to chance upon without the local knowledge. By coincidence the trip also coincided with an outing by the Friends of Kooyoorra State Park (Melville Caves) which we were able to join. The assistance of Greg Binns in making the contacts ensured this was a memorable activity. Carol Hall chose the venue and it proved to be excellent.

There have been some matters of local environmental concern and I particularly thank John Gregurke for his continuing efforts in bringing these to the attention of the club, drafting responses and representing the interest of the environment and club members at hearings. Of particular note is the Victorian Administrative Appeals Tribunal (VCAT) hearing into the location of a sewer line along the Yarrowee Creek near Ditchfield Lane. This is a matter which was mentioned in last year's report and which has not yet been finalised. John has spent many hours at meetings with those concerned preparing the case and at the actual hearings. Whilst it seems the sewer will proceed, the conditions imposed as a result of objections will reduce the impact compared with the original plans. Other matters which have not been as intensive but which have involved attendance of members at meetings and the drafting of responses have included Department of Sustainability and Environment Fire Plans, Ballarat West Common Master Plan,



Central Region Water plan, Victoria Park Draft Management Plan, the Ballarat Planning Scheme Amendment C95 which involved overlays for development, submission of a list of significant trees for inclusion on the Ballarat Council's List of Treasures, letters of support to the Dereel Action Group and those opposing changes to Bastion Point near Mallacoota.

The club nominated Ern Perkins of the Castlemaine Field Naturalists for the Natural History medallion for his esteemed work researching, supporting and promoting the natural environment. The submission was unsuccessful this year but will remain current and will be considered again.

I am pleased to again note my amazement at the knowledge and expertise within the club and the willingness of members to share that with others through presentations at meetings and leading excursions. It certainly extends knowledge and interest when members who travel to unusual and distant places share their experiences and personal reflections.

This has been an interesting natural history year as we have all observed Lake Wendouree shrink and finally completely dry due to prolonged drought. The effects on birdlife particularly have been keenly watched with a record number of bird species being observed. The bush too has been drier and plants have really suffered.

A Christmas function was again held at the home of Carol Hall, this time on a Friday evening with a good attendance including friends of Alison and John Williams from the UK adding an international interest to the discussions. I extend the appreciation of club members to Carol for hosting this event.

My sincere thanks go to everybody who has helped in countless ways to the smooth running of the club this year, especially all committee members. Whilst reticent to single people out, I want to particularly note Nina Netherway's willingness to take on the job of newsletter editor although a relatively recently joined member. The newsletter continues to be a high standard. John and Alison Williams whilst only working in Australia for about two years joined the committee this year and have shown their enthusiasm for the environment as well as sharing knowledge of their home land. It has added interest to activities being able to "show off" our country. The club is certainly not a one person show and committee members have been essential in ensuring the vitality of the club. Carol Hall continued this year as Secretary, Les Hanrahan as Treasurer, Greg Binns as Vice President and public officer and my wife Claire whilst a member of the committee also supports me in ways that largely go unnoticed with her editing, writing, advice and organisational contribution. Helen Burgess provides milk for each meeting as well as preserves for sale. Thank you all for your help. If the club is to continue its strength, it will be important that we all put in. As in last year's report I remind members that if not on the committee this can be done by attending activities, volunteering to write up excursions and speakers, helping with setting up the room and with supper and in many other ways.

To me the activities of our club are always interesting and inspiring and I look forward to our next year of activities.

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**FNC Ballarat**  
**MINUTES OF 54th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**2nd March 2007.**

**Opening and Welcome** The Vice-president Greg Binns welcomed 23 members.

**Apologies** have been received from Peter Dalman, Les Hanrahan, Chris & Anna Baulch, John & Alison Williams, Maureen Christie, Maureen Christie, Ken & Del McDonnell, Dulcie Brooke, Eileen Anderson, Lorraine Fink.

Moved: P.Billing                      Seconded: B. Murphy

**Minutes of 53rd Annual General Meeting:** read by the Secretary.

Moved: B. Murphy                      Seconded: C. Dalman

**President's Report:** read by Greg Binns for Peter Dalman.

Moved: Greg Binns                      Seconded: Lyndsay Fink

**Treasurer's Report** presented by Carol Hall for Les Hanrahan.

Moved: Carol Hall                      Seconded: Avis Barlow

## Election of Office Bearers

Nominations received:

*President:* Peter Dalman

*Vice President:* Greg Binns

*Secretary:* to be filled

*Treasurer:* Les Hanrahan

*Committee:* Claire Dalman, Carol Hall, John Gregurke, Helen Burgess, John Morrish, Val Hocking, Nina Netherway.

## General Business.

Club subscription: Committee recommends subscriptions be maintained at current levels.

Moved: C.Hall                      Seconded: J.Gregurke

The meeting ended at 8.06pm.

## **FNC Ballarat Minutes of General Meeting March 2 2007**

**The President welcomed 23 members and visitors.**

### **Correspondence**

#### ***IN: (selected)***

- Geelong Naturalist February 2007
- Whirrakee Jan/Feb 2007
- Castlemaine Naturalist February 2007
- Information Victoria – Cheque for Books \$83
- Under Control January 2007
- The Web Summer 2007
- The State of Australia's Birds
- SEANA minutes, nomination forms (given to Dalmans to take to Forrest)
- Dept of Justice (Consumer Affairs) incorporation renewal. \$37.60
- VCAT – determination on Ditchfield Lane objections (passed to JG)
- VCAT – amendment re typographical errors in text of above.
- Floreo Autumn 2007
- City of Ballarat – acknowledgement of submission re Canadian Valley.

***OUT:*** Cheques for TFN renewal \$50, FNCV affiliation \$60

**Business arising from correspondence:** PO Box to be paid. John Gregurke to be re-nominated to SEANA committee.

### **Reports**

***Treasurer's Report:*** Opening Balance: \$4063.72      Closing balance: \$3915.67

***Other Reports:*** John Gregurke reported that VCAT had determined that the Ditchfield Lane sewer line could go ahead under certain conditions including adjustments to the route and with vegetation offsets.

### **General Business**

- Lorraine Carranza (Dereel) indicated that \$6000 grant had been received for the lagoon project – invitation to celebrate on Thurs March 8 7.30 at Dereel Hall. Carol, Greg and John G expressed interest.
- Jenny Burrell had asked if the plastic nesting boxes on the lake were used and if not could they be removed. Field and Game had erected some of them so they should be contacted.

### **Show & Tell/Field Reports**

- John Gregurke: showed us a branch of *Angophora floribunda* from his garden which was in bloom and attracted 40 Musk Lorikeets and several New Holland Honeyeaters.
- Carol Hall showed a graph of rainfall which clearly displayed the decreased rainfall since 1997 to 2006.
- Val Hocking: lots of Musk Lorikeets in her yellow *C. ficifolia*.
- Gavin Cerini: on Lake Wendouree many eel carcasses about 700mm long on dry lake bed.

**Syllabus Item:** Members' Images Extreme Environments

## CALENDAR

### April

- Fri 13 Patrick-Jean Guay, Ph.D. Student, Dept. of Zoology, Uni. Of Melb.  
*Behaviour and Conservation of the Musk Duck.*  
**(NOTE change of date due to Good Friday)**
- Sun 15 Monmouth Mine and Hardies Hill—leader John Gregurke
- Tues 24 Committee Meeting, 7.30pm at Helen Burgess, 130 Moola St., Black Hill

### May

- Fri 4 Rolf Schlagloth—Liason Officer, Australian Koala Foundation  
*A Vision for the Future—Koala Management in Ballarat.*
- Sun 6 Mt Beckworth - Club Members
- 25-27 **Club Camp**—Star of the Sea Convent, Apollo Bay

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### Committee

President.....	Mr Peter Dalman
Vice-President.....	Mr Greg Binns
Secretary.....	Mr John Gregurke
Treasurer .....	Mr Les Hanrahan
Miss Helen Burgess .....	Mrs Claire Dalman.....
Mrs Carol Hall .....	Mrs Val Hocking .....
Mr John Morrish .....	Ms Nina Netherway (editor) .....

**Correspondence:** PO Box 328W, Ballarat West, 3350

**Email:**

**Website:** [www.ballarat.yourguide.com.au](http://www.ballarat.yourguide.com.au) Click on *Local Info. Search Environment*

**Meetings** are held at Ballarat Horticultural Centre, cnr. Gregory & Gillies Sts (VicRoads 254 F8) on the first Friday of the month at 7.30pm.

**Excursions:** Depart from Ballarat Market Place (formerly Creswick Plaza) Creswick Rd., Ballarat (VicRoads 255 M10) at 9.30am unless otherwise specified.

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